

SPECIFICATION:

Page 8, lines 7-29, please amend as follows:

Since Sertoli cells secrete many growth enhancing factors including insulin-like growth factor I (55), the presence of Sertoli cells, in addition to their immunoprotective protective properties, may provide additional tropic and growth support to the transplant. Recently, Selawry et al. (48) showed that when cryopreserved pig islet cells were thawed and immediately place in culture with Sertoli cells, there was a significant enhancement of post-thaw survival and insulin secretion when compared to thawed islets not co-cultured with Sertoli cells. They suggested that insulin-like growth factor I may have provided growth factor support to the cell membrane known to be damaged during freezing. Recently Sanberg et al (49-51) demonstrated that Sertoli cells can survive in the brain and, in fact, protect bovine adrenal chromaffin cell xenografts from rejection when co-transplanted into the striatum of the Parkinson's disease rat model. Even more significant, Sertoli cells alone transplanted into the PD rat result in the amelioration of motion dysfunction to the same degree as do chromaffin cells indicating a type of successful growth factor therapy, as yet unknown, provided for by the transplanted Sertoli cells (52). Similar to islet cells, Cameron et al (53) have shown that the post-thaw viability of fetal brain cells is significantly enhanced if the neuron are co-cultured with Sertoli cells again indicating the generalized ability of Sertoli cell secretory products to support the viability of isolated cells. For both islets and neurons, the growth and viability enhancing characteristics of Sertoli cells were evident only when the Sertoli cells were present as opposed to only media soluble factors found in expended pre-conditioned Sertoli cell media.